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BACK PAY OF OIL WORKERS DUE FRIDAY

Many Thousands of Dollars to Be Paid Field Men In This District

Oil workers throughout this district are looking forward with much pleasure to the receipt within the next two days of back-pay checks, said to average well over \$100 each. Friday, October 19, has been set as the final date for dispatching the checks covering retroactive pay as ordered by Secretary of Interior Ickes under the Oil Code Authority agreement with employing companies. The payments will place in circulation in the Southland more than a half-million dollars of the total of \$185,000,000 due oil workers throughout the country. Among the companies operating in the Torrance-Lomita field which are included in the order to make back-pay remittances are: General Petroleum Corporation, Chamberlain-Field, Midway Oil Company, Standard Oil Company, Shell Oil Company, Associated Oil Company, Union Oil Company, Richfield Oil Company and a large number of smaller companies.

The increased wage rate, which is retroactive to 1933, affects seven workers' classifications including practically all field men working on an hourly basis excepting drilling crews and common laborers.

Inspirational Talk Is Given Chamber Group

Vision, determination and faith in the future of Southern California has been responsible for the gigantic industrial development of the Southland, and if civic leaders will emulate these sterling characteristics of earlier Southland leaders, we will come safely through the present crisis, Charles P. Bayer, field secretary of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, told an interested group of Torrance civic leaders at the quarterly membership meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening.

Without in any way belittling the benefits of service clubs, Mr. Bayer stated that the Chamber of Commerce was the most important organization in the community and urged everyone interested in the development of the community to actively support the Chamber of Commerce.

Following Mr. Bayer's talk, a discussion of Cabrillo avenue improvement, the outfall sewer, and other important local developments was held.

CORNELIUS PEET ENTERS WOODBURY COLLEGE

Mr. Cornelius Peet of 1008 Portola avenue, Torrance, has entered Woodbury College where he is taking a complete commercial art course.

Mr. Peet, who is the son of William Peet, was graduated from Torrance high school last June.

Democratic Ranks Continue To Gain, Registration Figures Show

Republicans have lost 113,682 since the election of Nov. 8, 1932, while the Democratic ranks have gained 84,280, according to figures obtained today from the registrar of voters.

Further analysis of the new figures for the coming November 6 election shows that whereas the Democrats now have a majority of 146,610 in the county, the Republicans had a majority of but 51,352 at the election that resulted in a Democratic landslide throughout the nation.

Democrats gained another 5598 in registration in the county and Republicans lost 2739 during the 30-day period that voters were permitted to re-register between August 29 and September 28, according to Registrar W. M. Kerr. Analysis of registration figures for this city, reaching the new total of 3970 shows this city had 1576 Republicans and 2395 Democrats registered for the August primary. It has 1586 Republicans and 2191 Democrats registered for the November 6 election, a scattering of 32 declared and 161 undeclared party affiliations.

Lomita had 960 Republicans and 1511 Democrats registered for the

Complete List of Tenants For Check-up of Voters Is Ordered

The proprietor of every hotel, apartment, rooming house and court in Torrance will be notified some time this week to supply the registrar of voters with a complete list of all his tenants, as the result of action taken late Monday by the Los Angeles county Republican Assembly.

Ten members of the committee including Robert Thomas of 806 East Penn street, Whittier, filed a bulky document with Registrar W. M. Kerr shortly before 5 o'clock Monday afternoon, containing the name and address of every hotel, apartment, rooming house and court in the county. The list was filed under Section 1094 of the Political Code, Kerr said, which requires him to send a formal request to each house of the places listed, directing the proprietor to comply promptly upon receipt of the request.

The registrar of voters then must check the names forwarded to him, ascertain the names of those who are registered, and send the list of registered to the voting precinct officer on election day. Failure of the hotel or apartment house owner to comply promptly with the registrar's request may be punishable as a misdemeanor, according to the political code. The political code provides that request for such a check must be filed at least 30 days before the election, and must be signed by at least 10 persons, both being compiled with, Kerr said.

The Republican group appeared before the board of supervisors several hours previous and asserted that it was believed there might be as many as 100,000 persons unqualified to vote at the November election. Edward S. Shattuck is president of the body, while Howard D. Mills, executive vice president, was one of the speakers before the supervisors.

Services of 400 deputy registrars, to serve without pay, will be used by the registrar in checking the rolls, under the terms of an order adopted late Monday by the supervisors.

Torrance Alumni Homecoming Day Set For Nov. 2

Alumni home-coming day, which was not observed last year, will be held at the Torrance high school on the afternoon of November 2, the date of the "big game" between Torrance and Narbonne high schools.

This is the day when all former students at the high school, especially the graduates, return to visit their old schoolmates and teachers. Usually a whole day is devoted to the event, but this year it will be a half-day session only.

In addition to the football game, old grads will be entertained with the first annual school cross-country run, for which the Torrance Kiwanis Club has donated a handsome silver trophy.

All alumni and former students are urged to turn out to make this one of the great days in school history.

EARTHQUAKE

A pronounced earthquake shock disturbed residents of the South Bay section at 1:30 yesterday morning. The shock was quite severe although it lasted only a few seconds. A broken mirror was the only damage reported in Torrance.

Drafting of an Ordinance That Would Restrict the Distribution of Handbills in Co. Area Is Opposed

Drafting of an ordinance that would restrict the distribution of handbills in all unincorporated territory of the county was ordered this week by the board of supervisors, at the request of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce.

A draft of the proposed ordinance probably will not reach the supervisors for at least two weeks, it was reported at the Hall of Records.

Better Housing On The Air Friday

F. W. Marlow, district director for Southern California, of the federal Better Housing program, will give a ten-minute talk over KPAC, Friday, October 19, during the period from 7:45 to 8:30 which is to be devoted to publicizing the advantages of the national recovery act in the building trades. On Saturday, October 20, another program on the same topic will be broadcast over KPWB at 7 o'clock. All property owners are invited to tune in on these two programs to get authoritative information.

BUILDING MODERNIZATION DRIVE IS "TAKING HOLD"

Much Discussed Interest Rate, On Loans Under National Act Is Explained; Loans Made By Local Banks

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 17, 1934—How is the Modernization Credit Plan for renovating property taking hold?

What is the idea behind this lowest cost time-financing in history? How does this "bargain credit" compare with "glit-

terized collateral loans?" These are the prevailing inquiries, mixed with the practical business of setting a new enterprise in motion, that have crowded in, since this amazing credit innovation was announced August 10. Until today I have replied to the first question: "Wait and see," and to the other question: "Figure it out for yourself." Many good ideas come to grief in infancy because of over-prediction and superbullyhood. There was no object in forecasting figures which would tell their own story in due time. And the hard-headed American property owner, knowing well that the public mind is easily misled, needs no advice from Washington when bargain values are laid before him. He will do his own "buying" and "borrowing."

Construction On Church Unit Is Well Under Way

Volunteer Labor Wanted to Complete New Addition

Members and friends of Torrance Christian church will be interested to know that construction on their new Sunday school unit is under way. A small army of workmen have been busy the past few days excavating. Forms for the footing will be set and the cement poured this week. Carpenters will start on the superstructure the first of next week. The basement floor will accommodate several classes when completed; while the first floor will provide room for an intermediate department of three classes and a large room, 24 by 36 feet, will be used by the Torrance Men's Bible class. The regular Sunday morning sessions of the class will be held in this room.

The room will also be used by the members of the class and their friends as a clubroom, according to Rev. George Elder, teacher of the class. A large fireplace, a well-stocked library of good books and magazines, reading tables and easy-chairs will be at the disposal of the men both day and night.

The building will be erected by donated labor. "The call is for volunteers," said the pastor. The church wants cement men, carpenters, roof men, floor men, plasterers, painters, electricians and plumbers to give a little of their leisure time to the enterprise. A superintendent will be on the job every day and those who want to help will please contact him.

Reprieve For Condemned Man

Charles Tedesco, scheduled to hang Friday for the murder of John W. Whitehead near Torrance in July, 1932, has been granted a reprieve until November 16, it was announced from Sacramento Tuesday.

Tedesco's conviction recently was upheld by the state supreme court. He was convicted by a jury in Los Angeles superior court on October 25, 1933, almost a year ago.

The delay was granted to permit his attorneys to contact the Los Angeles district attorney's office and the trial judge, in the hopes of either obtaining grounds for commutation of the sentence or of another plea for a new trial.

Cooling Tower Is Under Construction

Construction of a cooling tower for the Hughes-Mitchell Processes plant at 20225 Normandie avenue was under way this week, following issuance of a permit by the city of Los Angeles. Cost of the tower will be \$2285, according to the permit.

The Western Iron and Metal Company, 2500 Santa Fe avenue, is erecting the tower.

High School Repairs Will Be Completed By End of December

Completion of rehabilitation of the main and shop buildings of the Torrance high school, where work has been in progress since the beginning of the present semester, is expected by December 31, according to advices from the publicity department of the board of education.

Pueblo Fiesta Will Be Held Next Tuesday

Public Invited to Attend Gay Celebration Sponsored by Playground Workers

The Mexican community of Pueblo will be the scene of another gay fiesta on Tuesday, October 23. This will be under the auspices of the SEHA playgrounds and the Torrance recreation department in co-operation with the merchants and residents of Pueblo.

The program will continue all afternoon and evening including games, dancing and a concert. A tubular drum between the

team from Terminal Island will be called at 2:30 p. m. Following the game will be wrestling and boxing events.

At 7:00 p. m. a concert will be given by the SEHA Mexican musical orchestra from the Los Angeles county department of recreation and playgrounds.

After the concert, beginning about 9 o'clock, a dance will be held, the music to be furnished by the recreation department dance band.

Great interest is being shown by the Mexican population from this whole end of the country and many Torrance townspersons will be on hand to enjoy the festivities.

Survey Ordered For Office Space For Justice Courts

A survey of office space that will be required for the justice courts, that are to be consolidated next January 7 was under way this week by the county bureau of efficiency, at the direction of the board of supervisors.

The survey was ordered after a communication had been read from Justice Thomas B. Reed of Covina township, requesting information as to where the justice court would be located in the new El Monte township. The new alignment, ordered by the board several months ago, becomes effective on the first Monday after January 1.

The efficiency bureau, replying to Reed's letter, reminded the supervisors that courtroom space in a number of the townships would not be required after the consolidation was effected. The supervisors ordered the bureau to determine which leases should be cancelled, on motion of Supervisor Roger Jessup, who sponsored the township consolidation plan before the supervisors several months ago.

Columbia Employee Reported A Suicide

William Bursay, age 34, an employee of the sheet mill department at the Columbia Steel plant, was found dead in his car at his home, 207 Beryl street, Redondo Beach, last week under circumstances that indicated the man had taken his own life. Bursay is said to have been in ill health and despondent. He leaves a wife and four small children.

According to report, Bursay is said to have told his wife recently that she "could take his insurance money and go back east."

He had driven his car into an unused garage near his home and left the motor running. Death from asphyxiation resulted.

Held to Answer In Superior Court

George Luman, 1355 George street, Wilmington, who was arraigned in the Lomita township justice court last week on a moral charge, was given a preliminary hearing Monday, before Judge George B. Aitkenhead of La Rambla township, sitting for Judge Esther I. Dennis. On the testimony of the youthful witnesses, two boys, aged seven and nine years, and relatives of the children, Luman was held to answer in superior court where he will be tried October 31, in department 45. Bail was fixed at \$1500 cash or \$3000 property, in default of which Luman was remanded to the county jail.

GARDENA BANK IS REOPENED LAST MONDAY

Farmers & Merchants Bank Passes From Conservatorship to Full Operation

Releasing over \$200,000 in cash tied up since March 1933, the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Gardena, was reopened Monday morning, October 15, on order of John McFarland, chief of the Southern Division of the State Banking Department of California.

The opening of this institution resulted from long months of effort on the part of the group of Gardena business men chosen by the bank's stockholders to represent them and manage the bank's affairs.

P. E. Hennis, newly-elected president in a published statement, said Monday: "The bank's affairs are all in a shape. We have plenty of money on hand. In fact the cash, U. S. bonds, and other quick assets total over \$15,000 more than the entire deposits subject to withdrawal."

Associated with Mr. Hennis in the bank management are Judge Frank Carroll, as vice president; Jas. N. Blake, cashier, and Keith W. Schlager, Counselman Purselle and William Medland, directors.

Federal insurance of deposits up to \$5000 has been authorized by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the new bank will thereby operate under the same terms as the reopened national banks. The citizens of Gardena are all the more pleased with the re-establishment of their bank, because of the fact that it is the first state bank to be reopened since the bank holiday in 1933. It has been operating under a conservatorship for 18 months.

Open Quarters For Merriam In Torrance

Local headquarters of the Merriam for Governor campaign were opened in Torrance this week at 1331 El Prado with James H. Scott in charge. Mrs. Gertrude Halston is in charge of the women's division.

In a resolution adopted October 12, the Leonard Wood Camp No. 105, United States War Veterans, at Redondo Beach, endorsed the election of Frank F. Merriam as governor, because he "has demonstrated beyond doubt his ability as a statesman, as a cool, level-headed and able thinker and one who has all the necessary attainments to be chosen by the electorate of California to carry this state through the next four years of troublesome times." The resolution further stated that "Mr. Merriam is an always has been a friend of the veteran."

Alondra Park Taxpayers Again Ask For Relief

The special assessment relief committee of the county is today considering a petition containing 750 names of property owners in the immediate vicinity of Alondra Park, north of Torrance, asking the county to start refunding proceedings under the Assembly Act of 1933.

This action would convert assessments under the Matton Act to direct form of assessment similar to the legislation enacted in 1911. The petition also asks a discount on outstanding debts and asks the county to contribute from any fund available to reduce the debt.

Petitions are still being circulated and some petitions have been received from property owners outside the area around Alondra Park.

Bottleneck Bridge On Western Avenue Has Been Widened

Final touches were being put on the western avenue viaduct and La Tijera boulevard grade separation this week by the maintenance division of the county road department.

The western avenue project, which removes the "bottleneck" from an important north and south artery, was completed late last week, with the widening of the highway for a distance of several hundred feet, to the north and over the newly widened structure. Width of the roadway now is 56 feet between curbs, and there is a five-foot sidewalk on either side.

Atlas Construction Company was the contractor, and the cost approximately \$18,000.

La Tijera boulevard grade separation will have cost \$37,000, according to O. F. Conley, assistant road commissioner.

Firestone Stores Robbed of Cash

Some time Friday afternoon, an unknown party entered the service station office of the Firestone Service Stores at Cravens and Marcelina avenues, and removed \$165.80 from the cash register. While several employees were busy about the place all afternoon, none of them noticed anything amiss, and the loss of the money was not discovered until checking up time in the evening.

Rifle Bullet In Brain 17 Years FORSYTH, Mo. (U.P.)—Garland Coombs, 19, has been carrying a 22-caliber rifle bullet in his brain since he was two years old. The boy was shot in the forehead by accident 17 years ago and doctors feared to remove the pellet. He suffers no pain.

RAINFALL

At Torrance high school the rain gauge this morning showed a total of 2.26 inches for the two-day storm which started late Tuesday evening. Total for the season is 2.31, total last year at this time 5.15 inches.

At Narbonne high school the figures for the Lomita area were 1.32 inches for the storm, 1.85 for the season.